

FOURTH
SECTION
SIXTEEN
PAGES

THE DRUG TERROR

PICTORIAL
MAGAZINE

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A dope fiend cooking
his meal.
Drug dealers have
grown prosperous
on this type.



Hitting the Pipe."
Tons of opium im-
ported for "medicinal
purposes" are used
for this purpose.

With Practically
Unrestricted
Traffic Cocaine
Vice Has Grown
So Swiftly That
We Are Most
Drugged Nation in
World With 4.45
Per Cent. of Popu-
lation Addicted to
Habit

Campaign Under-
taken by Mrs. Will-
iam K. Vanderbilt,
Sr., for Extermina-
tion of Practice One
of the Greatest
Moral Struggles in
History -- Cocaine
and Heroin Dead-
liest of Habit Form-
ing Drugs

ONE morning in January a woman undertook
one of the greatest moral struggles in his-
tory.

Quietly announcement was made from
2 Rector street that Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt had
placed "a generous sum of money" at the disposal
of Ernest K. Coulter and a staff of investigators to
use in the campaign for the extermination of drug
addiction not only in the city and State of New York
but throughout the United States.

So swiftly has this vice grown that the United
States has distanced every other nation in the world
in the volume per capita of its illegitimate drug con-
sumption. The commerce in cocaine, heroin, mor-
phine and opium now approximates the opium traffic
of 1900 in China—history's most notorious example
of a drugged nation—when after 200 years of its com-
merce in opium 6.5 per cent. of China's population
were found to be opium smokers. With the aid of
practically every civilized nation in the world China
has today reduced that figure to 4.1 per cent., while
in the United States twenty years of practically un-
restricted traffic in drugs has made drug addicts
of 4.45 per cent. of the population.

Not only is the United States the scene of the
world's greatest drug traffic but cocaine and heroin,
whose illegitimate use is peculiar to Americans, are
among the deadliest of the world's habit forming
drugs. The morphine victim would experience no
result whatever from the daily drug doses of the
South American coca chewer, the Arab's an hashish
user or the Chinese opium smoker. But a morphine
addict will live twenty years and do his work, while
the American cocaine addict turns criminal and
dies in two years.

DOPE

No other vice renders its victim so dangerous.
Opium, morphine and hashish send their victims
searching for solitude, but a sniff of cocaine after
lifting its victim into a half hour's rosy overestima-
tion drops him into the streets and alleys in a state
of dangerous melancholia. So brief is the drug's
effect that it takes from \$4 to \$5 a day to satisfy a

cocaine addict—more money than any other drug
addiction exacts. That's why "coke" produces more
criminals in the city of New York than any other
single cause.

No other country in the world knows the cocaine
habit. "Cocaine addiction is an American habit,"
says Dr. Charles B. Towns of 110 West Eighty-first

street, a recognized authority. "It is the result of
our high pressure of living, our craving for over-
stimulation, our proneness to 'take something' when
we don't feel well. I have never known an Italian, a
Hungarian, a Russian, a Pole and only a few Jews
(except in the underworld) who took drugs."

"Cocaine addiction is the easiest habit to acquire

and the hardest to cure," says Dr. Podstata, a Chi-
cago drug expert. "Nothing so quickly deteriorates
its victim or provides so short a cut to the insane
asylum," says Dr. Towns. Because it takes such a
quick, deadly grip of its victim there are some physi-
cians who refuse to administer any cocaine what-
ever, even in legitimate medical practice. Yet any
crook can bring a carload of cocaine from Philadel-
phia into New York city, and the Interstate Com-
merce Commission is powerless to interfere.

Notwithstanding its vitiating effects the growth
of cocaine addiction is indicated by the increasing
import into the United States of coca leaves, the
only source of cocaine and the product of a shrub
which cannot be grown here. According to the
American Pharmaceutical Association the coca im-
port from 1898 to 1902 inclusive was valued at \$83,211,
from 1903 to 1907, inclusive, \$1,616,680. The present
annual consumption of cocaine is 200,000 ounces, of
which 92 per cent. is used illegitimately—for every
man, woman and child in the United States a staff
of cocaine sufficiently strong to kill several in 100.
Its enormous profit explains the growth of the
cocaine business. An ounce of cocaine, wholesale,
costs about \$4. Divided into pink pill boxes and 100
bottles the ounce is sold without adulteration for
from \$20 to \$25 to those who use the needle and know
the difference. Adulterated heavily with acetanilid
it is sold to "sniffers" for from \$10 to \$20 an ounce and
half crazed fiends on the verge of the "cocaine leaps"
can be made to yield even greater profit. Thus
profits ranging from 500 to 1,500 per cent. on the
investment have entrenched the cocaine business
on a nationwide scale.

But there are politer methods of getting cocaine

